

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CALCUT 03019 220515Z

14

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 IO-03 INR-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

DHA-02 PM-03 EB-03 SAM-01 EA-06 /066 W

----- 121416

P R 220442Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5022

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CALCUTTA 3019

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, BG, US

SUBJ: GENERAL JACOB SEES SITUATION WORSENING IN BANGLADESH

1. AT SOCIAL FUNCTION EVENING DECEMBER 21 GENERAL JACOB TOOK ME ASIDE AND ASKED HOW THINGS WERE IN BANGLADESH. I SAID I WAS A LITTLE SURPRISED AT THE QUESTION; AS FAR AS I KNEW ALL WAS QUIET AND THE REGIME WAS GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION. JACOB SAID NO, YOU ARE WRONG, THE SITUATION IS WORSENING. ZIA'S POSITION IS WEAKENING, JACOB SAID, AND FORMER PRESIDENT MOUSTAQUE AHMAD IS TRYING TO MAKE A COMEBACK. JACOB GLOOMILY FORECAST A PERIOD OF DISORDER AHEAD IN BANGLADESH BUT I COULD NOT GET HIM TO ELABORATE ON THE REASONS FOR HIS PESSIMISM. ALL HE WOULD SAY WAS THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT OF THE ACCURACY OF HIS INFORMATION.

2. JACOB REFERRED BITTERLY TO REPORTS IN THE US PRESS OF INDIAN ARMY INFILTRATION INTO BANGLADESH AND SUPPORT FOR BANGLADESH INSURGENTS. AFTER HAVING RHETORICALLY DEMOLISHED THESE STORIES ("AS I HAVE TOLD YOU A DOZEN TIMES, WE HAVE NO DESIRE TO GO INTO BANGLADESH, THE PLACE CAN SINK AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED"),

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CALCUT 03019 220515Z

JACOB SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE UNITED STATES IS GIVING

"MASSIVE ASSISTANCE" TO THE CURRENT BANGLADESH REGIME. I SAID THAT AS FAR AS I KNEW WE WERE DOING NOTHING MORE THAN CONTINUE THE HUMANITARIAN FOOD AID THAT WE EXTENDED TO SHEIKH MUJIB'S REGIME. JACOB ASKED IF THE US IS PROVIDING OR INTENDS TO PROVIDE BANGLADESH WITH ARMS. I REPLIED THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THE ONLY ASSISTANCE WE ARE GIVING BANGLADESH IS ECONOMIC. HE THEN EXPRESSED SUSPICION THAT USG WOULD HAVE PAKISTAN GIVE BANGLADESH ARMS. AND IF THE PAKISTANIS DON'T, HE SAID, THE CHINESE WILL. JACOB'S CLOSING REMARK WAS THE ADMONITION "DON'T PLAY WITH FIRE OVER THERE."

3. COMMENT: JACOB WAS IN A FOUL MOOD AND HIS SCHIZOPHRENIA ABOUT BANGLADESH WAS MORE IN EVIDENCE THAN USUAL. ON THE ONE HAND HE PROFESSES NOT TO CARE A HOOT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS IN BANGLADESH WHILE ON THE OTHER HE GLOOMILY FORECASTS THE WORST AND ENTERTAINS DARK SUSPICIONS OF U.S., PAKISTANI, AND CHINESE ACTIVITIES THERE.
KORN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, POLITICAL STABILITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CALCUT03019
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750443-0760
From: CALCUTTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751220/aaaaardg.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL JACOB SEES SITUATION WORSENING IN BANGLADESH
TAGS: PFOR, IN, BG, US, (JACOB)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006